

# Guidance and Counseling Services

# DIGEST

Vol. 12, No.7

*Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.*

February 2015

*Our Vision: That every school will have fully implemented Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Programs that advance the academic, career and personal/social development of all students.*

*Our Mission: To work collaboratively with Professional School Counselors, the Missouri School Counselor Association, Counselor Educators and all stakeholders to develop and provide the leadership, resources and professional development necessary to support professional school counselors in their efforts to fully implement their comprehensive guidance and counseling programs.*

## **The Guidance and Counseling Services Staff:**

**Rene' Yoesel** - 573-751-0857 [Rene.Yoesel@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Rene.Yoesel@dese.mo.gov)  
**Tom Schlimpert** - 573-751-6875 [Tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov)  
**Loree Curtman** - 573-751-4383 [Loree.Curtman@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Loree.Curtman@dese.mo.gov)

## **Announcements**

Resources and information provided in the Guidance Digest are for communication purposes only. Listing these resources and information does not constitute endorsement by either the Guidance and Counseling Services Section or the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

### **Happy Counselor Appreciation Week!**

We hope that you had a special week of feeling appreciated! You are worthy of recognition and appreciation! Rene and Tom understand the daunting challenges you face and are working hard with Dr. Lee Bunch and the MSCA leadership and the counselor educators to advocate for you and provide the materials and support you need. *School Counselors Rock!*

### **February - CTE Appreciation Month**

Career and Technical Education is a viable option for students and a key to our continued economic growth. Let your CTE instructors, leaders, and students know they are respected and appreciated! Ideas for getting involved can be found at [www.acteonline.org/ctemonth](http://www.acteonline.org/ctemonth).

### **Farewell to Bragg**

Dr. Bragg Stanley has officially moved on to full time pursuit of the good life! Bragg retired from his Pathways to Prosperity position in January but will continue to teach guidance and counseling classes at Stephens College. We are thankful for the tremendous work Bragg did during his tenure at DESE Guidance and wish him the very best! He is truly a role model for being a compassionate professional!

### **Get Energized**

First Lady, Michelle Obama recognized school counselors at the White House this week. Missouri's own Dr. Shari Sevier (Rockwood), Dr. Norm Gysbers, (University of Missouri-Columbia), and Dee Anna Kelley (St. Joe) were present for the recognition ceremony! *Missouri School Counselors Rock!*

## Counselor Evaluation Workshops

The Spring Guidance System of Support Workshops will address the new DESE counselor evaluation process. Go to [GSOS - Counselor Evaluation Registration](#) for the dates and locations of the regional presentation in your area. Workshops begin on February 10!

## DESE Guidance and Counseling Website

The DESE [Guidance and Counseling Website](#) has resources for every program component. Check out the

- Extensive K-12 updated lesson plans
- Updated Responsive Services Guides
- Small Group Counseling Guides
- Links to Counselor Certification information
- College and Career Consultant contact information

# Program Components

---

## CURRICULUM

### Guidance Curriculum

Review your Guidance GLE's and use the high quality K-12 unit and lesson plans that the DESE Guidance and Counseling Writing Team has developed at [Guidance Curriculum](#)

[Missouri Connections](#) has career focused lesson plans for a variety of classroom, as well as career development lessons, and activities for grades 6-12. Log in and use these resources!

### Employability Skills Framework

Designed for multiple audiences, the **Lesson Planning Checklist** is a customizable tool that can be used for lesson planning and reflecting on the extent to which employability skills are being taught. It allows users to populate checklists with selected skills from the Employability Skills Framework, print teacher or student versions and download checklists with all skills.

See the tool for more examples of how teachers and advisors, administrators, students, and employers can use it: <http://cte.ed.gov/employabilityskills/index.php/developingskills/overview>

## INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PLANNING

### Missouri Connections

Test Preparation - ACT, SAT, ASVAB, and March 2 Success test preparation materials are all available under the "College" tab on the front page of Missouri Connections. [Missouri Connections](#)

The Occupations videos format has been upgraded for cleaner viewing. Log in and check them out!

For more information, contact Jackie Coleman at [jcoleman@motrainer.com](mailto:jcoleman@motrainer.com) or 573-634-0043 or Tom Schlimpert at [tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov](mailto:tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov) or 573-751-6875.

### Career Development Video

A brief video for students on how to tell their story to prepare for an interview.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClRcmWubL\\_0&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ClRcmWubL_0&feature=youtu.be)

## Scholarship

The Missouri Society of Professional Surveyors is offering a non-renewable scholarship for \$1500. The purpose of this award is to encourage students going to college with a major in land surveying or a related field.

[http://www.missourisurveyor.org/images/1190/document/mspssscholarship-application\\_326.pdf](http://www.missourisurveyor.org/images/1190/document/mspssscholarship-application_326.pdf)

## College Connections Center to Serve the Kansas City Metro

The Missouri College Advising Corps (MCAC) will again operate the College Connections Center in Kansas City this summer to assist recent high school graduates who may fall victim to *summer melt*. Summer melt is the phenomenon in which as many as 40% of college-intending high school graduates do not enroll in college in the fall.

The College Connections Center exists to provide no-cost assistance to college-bound students during the summer between high school graduation and college enrollment. The Center will be open June 1 – July 31, 2015, six days a week. Students in the larger Kansas City Metro can pre-arrange an appointment by visiting [collegeconnections.missouri.edu](http://collegeconnections.missouri.edu) or can come to the Center on a walk-in basis.

The Center will be located at:

Metropolitan Community College-Penn Valley  
Humanities Building 029  
3201 Southwest Trafficway  
Kansas City, MO 64111-2764

MCAC will again be seeking certified high school counselors to work at the Center for a \$30 hour consultant fee. Reach out to Victor Bradford at [bradfordvi@missouri.edu](mailto:bradfordvi@missouri.edu) or 573-882-4130 to learn of the counselor application process and the College Connections Center. To learn more about MCAC, please visit <http://mcac.missouri.edu>

## Missouri Department of Higher Education Information and Materials

Do you work with high school seniors who may be considering attending a postsecondary program during the 2015-2016 academic year? Spread the word that students and parents can get help filling out the 2015-2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the first step in applying for most federal, state and institutional financial aid, at any of the 88 [FAFSA Frenzy events](#) around the state in January, February and March. Students who attend a FAFSA Frenzy event will be entered into a statewide drawing to win a scholarship that can be used for enrollment in a Missouri higher education program for the fall 2015 term. For more information about FAFSA Frenzy, visit:

- Student Information [FAFSA Frenzy](#)
- Counselor Information <http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/collegegoalsundayFAO.php>.
- Completing FAFSA <https://studentaid.ed.gov/fafsa/filling-out>. Similar information to the "7 Things You Need..." link below, in different format.
- Completing Your FAFSA - video announcement [FAFSA Frenzy PSA](#)

## FAFSA Information

The U.S. Department of Education [ED Blog](#) provides the following information:

[7 Things You Need Before You Fill Out the FAFSA\\*](#)

[6 Steps to Filling Out the FAFSA](#)

[5 Reasons You Should Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#)

[Parents: Tips To Help Your Child Complete the FAFSA](#)

[7 Common FAFSA Mistakes](#)

## Interesting Blog

This is the story of a successful IT employee who did not go to college. While there are certainly multiple variables to those decisions a basic truth emerges - people need work experience as well as education.

<http://www.computerworld.com/article/2868110/degree-free-it-can-college-skippers-thrive-in-tech.html>

## RESPONSIVE SERVICES

### Teen Suicide

Is addressing mental health important?

- One in five teens will suffer from depression at some point during adolescence.
- Suicide is the second-leading cause of death in youth ages 15 to 24 in the United States.
- 4,600 youth died by suicide in 2012 (close to the number of people who died from Ebola in West Africa.)

Resources that can help:

- [DESE Responsive Services](#)
- Missouri Suicide Prevention Training Program: <http://www.moasklistenrefer.org/main>
- Suicide Prevention Resource Center: <http://www.sprc.org/>

## SYSTEM SUPPORT

### Statewide ACT Test Administration

The memo linked below provides information about the first statewide administration of the ACT to 11th grade students, as well as guidance to public school districts on accommodating any non-public student wishing to participate in the census administration of the assessment. [Administrative Memo CCR-15-004](#) on our [Administrative Memos](#) page provides specific information. Please contact the Assessment Section at (573) 751-3545 if you have questions or need further information. (An administrative function that counselors can support as part of the fair-share responsibilities.)

### "Great Kid" Videos for Parents

Milestones, a free online collection of videos aimed at helping parents understand grade-level expectations in grades K-5. Milestones show students demonstrating what success looks like in reading, writing and math, grade by grade. <http://www.greatschools.org/gk/milestones/>

### DESE 2015 Summer School Quick Reference and Reminder

In order to assist with summer school planning, the Department has developed a quick reference and reminder guide that provides an overview of the essential elements to insure a successful summer school program. It includes links to the Summer School Checklist, timely reminders for applications and report deadlines, as well as information on teacher certification and allowable activities. (Planning for summer school can be a Fair-Share activity, but it should not be the sole responsibility of the school counselor!) [Summer School Quick Reference and Reminders](#)

### MSIP5 Items Not Waived Checklist 2014-15

The Missouri School Improvement Program Items Not Waived Checklist 2014-15 is a significant list of items for school administrators to address. The list includes several items that are typically the responsibility of the school counselor. <http://dese.mo.gov/forms/MO5002723.pdf>

### The Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments (MEGA)

The Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments (MEGA) are the new exams Missouri educators, including counselors, seeking initial certification must take. The following link is an overview and study guide of the counselor assessment. It is a great resource for people completing their degree programs and preparing for this assessment. Sample questions are included on the right hand box under Sections. [http://www.mo.nesinc.com/Content/STUDYGUIDE/MO\\_SG\\_OBJ\\_056.htm](http://www.mo.nesinc.com/Content/STUDYGUIDE/MO_SG_OBJ_056.htm)

# Conferences and Professional Development Opportunities

---

## MSCA Spring Conference

**February 27, Location Lodge of the Four Seasons**

Get ready for a dynamic, new professional development experience at the 2015 MSCA Take Ten Conference! This one-day conference will provide the professional school counselor an opportunity to walk away with at least 10 principles, techniques or ideas that you can take back to your school or office.

## Missouri ACT State Conferences

The Missouri ACT State Organization is providing two conferences this year! *The New Big Picture* is the conference theme with session topics that include retaining at-risk students, preparing students for the workforce, and the pivotal role of assessment in academic, personal, and career development in Missouri. Click on the links below for more information and to register:

**Monday, March 2, 2015**

Sheraton Clayton Plaza Hotel

[St. Louis, Missouri](#)

**Tuesday, March 3, 2015**

The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center

[Kansas City, Missouri](#)

## School Safety Coordinator Workshop

[Register online here](#) or call 800-221-6722.

### Dates and Locations

3/2/15: Kansas City

3/3/15: Columbia

3/4/15: St. Charles

3/9/15: Springfield

3/11/15: Cape Girardeau

For More information: <http://hosted.verticalresponse.com/941283/3af3a2907a/1606699453/0d4a69cdac/>

## College Planning and Access Professional Development Series

The Missouri College Advising Corps is providing two presentations on March 31 from 7:30-10:00

- Assessing and Implementing Strategies to Strengthen College-Going Culture
- Summer Melt: What is It and How to Counter It

To learn more about the session and/or register, go to <http://muconf.missouri.edu/mcac/>

## Missouri Association for College Admission Counseling (MOACAC) Spring Conference

The MOACAC Spring Conference will be held April 12-14 at the Sheraton Westport Plaza in St. Louis. If finances are an issue you may submit the Professional Development Grant Application to Jennifer Shepard at [jshepard@centralmethodist.edu](mailto:jshepard@centralmethodist.edu) by March 23. SCHOOL COUNSELOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS - are currently being accepted from Professional School Counselors and MSCA members. Deadline to submit is February 6. Proposals from school counselors will be accepted until February 18. For more information about MOACAC or the Spring Conference: <http://www.moacac.org/conferences>

## Meet the professionals who say, "I Build."

**April 14, 2015** For more information visit their website, <http://nice-kc.com/>.

## Missouri Alternative Education Network Conference

The Missouri Alternative Education Network 2015 Conference will be held **July 19-21, 2015** at the Country Club Hotel & Spa in Lake Ozark. For more information contact [maen4kids@gmail.com](mailto:maen4kids@gmail.com) or go to <https://sites.google.com/site/maen4kids/>

## Interesting Insights

---

A few examples of why *career education* and developing the *whole child* are important:

**The top ten most in-demand jobs for 2015** according to Indeed:

1. Registered nurses
2. Truck drivers
3. Customer service representatives
4. Sales managers
5. Sales representatives
6. First-line supervisors or managers of retail sales workers
7. Software quality assurance engineers and testers
8. General and operations managers
9. Managers (all other)
10. Accountants and auditors

Source: Fortune Magazine <http://fortune.com/2015/01/24/in-demand-jobs-for-2015/>

### The High Cost of Low Graduation Rates

The American Institutes for Research recently released a [study](#) titled “The High Cost of Low Graduation Rates: How Much Does Dropping Out of College Really Cost?” In it, they conclude that the U.S. college dropout rate resulted in \$4.5 billion in lost earnings and tax revenues in 2011. Current four-year college graduation rates are:

Overall\*.....50%

White Students\*.....62%

Black Students\*.....42%

2 yr. Community College\*\*...12%

4 yr. Public State College\*\*...33%

4 yr. Private College\*\*.....56%

(\* American Institutes for Research)

(\*\* “[Hub Grads Come up Short in College](#),” James Vaznis)

The average student changes majors four (4) times during their college career. Further, **70% of graduates end up working outside their major field of study!** Is there not a better way to guide them? *Tim Elmore Blog 2/3/15*

*Yes there is a better way! It's call Personal Plans of Study and K-12 Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling!*

### We Were Built to Be Kind Video

A fascinating video on the physiology of the human brain and kindness:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=SsWs6bf7tvI&x-yt-ts=1421782837&x-yt-cl=84359240](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=SsWs6bf7tvI&x-yt-ts=1421782837&x-yt-cl=84359240)

---

*It is the policy of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability in its programs or employment practices as required by Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Office of the General Counsel, Coordinator–Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 6th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number (573) 526-4757 or TTY (800) 735-2966, fax (573) 522-4883, email [civilrights@dese.mo.gov](mailto:civilrights@dese.mo.gov).*